

**Claims**

1. A vacuum cleaning head comprising a housing, an agitator for agitating a floor surface, a chamber in the housing for rotatably receiving the agitator, an opening in the chamber, adjacent the agitator, for facing a floor surface, an air turbine for driving the agitator, an air inlet in the housing for admitting clean air to drive the turbine, a restricting device for fitting in a discharge outlet from the chamber, and wherein the restricting device is arranged to be movable between a restrictive position, in which it serves to restrict the cross-section of the discharge outlet, and an open position, in which it restricts the cross-section of the discharge outlet to a lesser extent, the restricting device being movable by the flow of debris from the chamber.
2. A vacuum cleaning head according to claim 1, wherein the restricting member comprises a guide vane which projects outwardly from a wall of the discharge outlet.
3. A vacuum cleaning head according to claim 2, wherein the guide vane is resiliently biased into the restrictive position.
4. A vacuum cleaning head according to claim 3, wherein the guide vane is connected to a wall of the discharge outlet by a resilient member.
5. A vacuum cleaning head according to claim 4, wherein the resilient member is a spring.
6. A vacuum cleaning head according to claim 4, wherein the guide vane is mounted on, or is the exposed surface of, a piece of resilient material which is secured to a wall of the discharge outlet.
7. A vacuum cleaning head according to claim 6, wherein the piece of resilient material is generally wedge-shaped.

8. A vacuum cleaning head according to any one of claims 2 to 7, further comprising a shielding member for shielding the space beneath the guide vane.

5 9. A vacuum cleaning head according to claim 8, wherein the shielding member is a piece of compressible material which fits beneath the guide vane.

10. A vacuum cleaning head according to claim 9, wherein the compressible material is a foam or a foam-like material.

10 11. A vacuum cleaning head according to any one of claims 2 to 10, wherein the downstream end of the guide vane is connected to the wall of the discharge outlet by a flexible member.

15 12. A vacuum cleaning head according to claim 11, wherein the guide vane and flexible member are formed integrally with one another from a resiliently flexible material.

13. A vacuum cleaning head according to any one of the preceding claims wherein a plurality of restricting devices are arranged across the discharge outlet.

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14. A vacuum cleaner incorporating a vacuum cleaning head according to any one of the preceding claims.

25 15. A vacuum cleaning head or a vacuum cleaner substantially as described herein with reference to the accompanying drawings.